PATENT APPLICATION Q58481

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of

Yoshiki TAKASHIMA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/537,416

Confirmation No.: not yet assigned

Filed: March 29, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: S. SAUCIER

METHODS FOR PRODUCING OPTICALLY ACTIVE AMINO ACIDS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

For:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated April 3, 2001, in which the Examiner set a three-month period for response.

A Petition for Extension of Time for three months is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, extending the time for response from July 3, 2001 to October 3, 2001.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Page 2, please replace the second paragraph with the following:

Now we discovered a biological material which has an ability of converting one of the optical isomers of a certain amino acid to the other of the optical isomers, the isomerism being on the basis of an asymmetric carbon atom to which both of an amino group and a carboxyl group are bound and the ability described above being not